What are intellectual and developmental disabilities?

There are nearly four million Americans with developmental disabilities. Developmental disabilities are severe, chronic disabilities attributable to mental and/or physical impairment, which manifest before age 22 and are likely to continue indefinitely.

These disabilities result in substantial developmental limitations regarding self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency, and require the continuous need for individually planned and coordinated services.

"Each one of us is a prophet, each one of us a leader in the struggle to focus the full force of science and free enterprise democracy on the empowerment of individual humans. Let us unite as never before. Let us go forward in the spirit of Ed Roberts, with love, with truth, with courage, with absolute commitment to a society by all."

- Justin Dart

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This publication was made possible by funding support from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Administration for Community Living, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

INDIANA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY NETWORK

MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION







IPAS, IGCPD, and IIDC: working together as advocates for individuals with disabilities by protecting, promoting and empowering our fellow Hoosiers.

All partnership programs are federally funded

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) provides federal funding for collaborative partnerships to "ensure that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to culturally competent services, supports, and other assistance and opportunities that promote independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion into the community."

Sometimes referred to as the DD Network, the State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (Councils), University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDDs), and Protection & Advocacy Systems (P&As) operate in every state and territory. They often participate in related, complementary work and collaboration even though they have different mandates.

The major goal of the AIDD program is to encourage and promote partnerships with state governments, local communities, and the private sector to assist people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to reach their maximum potential.

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission (IPAS), Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities (IGCPD), and the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community (IIDC) make up Indiana's Developmental Disability Network. All three programs receive funding through the federal Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect and promote the rights of individuals with disabilities, through empowerment and advocacy.

Indiana Protection and Advocacy Services Commission is an independent state agency separate from all other state agencies and programs. IPAS has the authority to pursue legal, administrative and other appropriate remedies under all applicable federal and state laws to protect and advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities.

Every year, IPAS represents hundreds of Hoosiers with disabilities in securing their rights to full community participation and helps thousands more through information, referral, education and training services.

Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities

MISSION STATEMENT

To advance independence, productivity, and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of society.

The Council is a state agency. As a consumer driven organization, the Council's role is multifaceted: It serves as an advocate for people with disabilities, acts as a barometer in measuring public sentiment, and is a conduit for brokering change in the public and private sectors.

To accomplish the mission, the Council invests its resources by engaging in numerous

strategies: supporting innovative approaches, engaging the public and private sectors in meaningful dialogue, building alliances at the state and community levels to broker change, sponsoring training events, supporting research and analysis through commissioned studies, and harnessing new technology to maximize options for citizen participation and community involvement.

Indiana Institute on Disability and Community

MISSION STATEMENT

The Indiana Institute on Disability and Community at Indiana University, Bloomington, works with communities to welcome, value, and support the meaningful participation of people of all ages and abilities through research, education, and service.

The Institute is both a leader and partner on capacity building regarding disability programs in Indiana. Our history includes a lifespan approach to policy development and analysis, statewide training and technical assistance, creation and implementation of innovations, active involvement with all stakeholders and alliance with government agencies in implementation of best practices, and solidarity with self-advocates with disabilities.